

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 06941 021457Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
OES-07 DOE-15 SOE-02 ACDA-12 NRC-07 EB-08 CEQ-01
/128 W

-----130435 021552Z /53

R 021243Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1351
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMCONSUL MADRAS
USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 6941

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH PORG IN US WA
SUBJECT: VAJPAYEE ON TARAPUR, NAMIBIA ANKD AFGHANISTAN

1. SPEAKING TO NEWSMEN MAY 1 ON HIS RETURN FROM
NEW YORK, FOREIGN MINISTER VAJPAYEE WELCOMED PRESIDENT
CARTERS "PROMPT ACTION" TO AUTHORIZE A FUEL SHIPMENT
FOR TARAPUR AND SAID HE DID NOT THINK THAT
INDIA WAS BEING "SINGLED OUT" BY THE US ON THE
NUCLEAR FUEL SUPPLY ISSUE. NEVERTHELESS, HE DID
NOT THINK THAT US LEGISLATION SHOULD BE APPLIED
RETROSPECTIVELY. SINCE INDIA FACED SIMILAR DIFFICULTIES
IN OBTAINING ENRICHED URANIUM AND HEAVY WATER FROM THE
USSR, VAJPAYEE DECLARED THAT THE BEST COURSE FOR INDIA
WOULD BE NUCLEAR SELF-SUFFICIENCY AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE. THE PRO-MOSCOW "PATRIOT" MEANWHILE ACCUSED
VAJPAYEE OF "SOFT-PEDDLING" THE "AMERICAN FAILURE" TO
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SUPPLY FUEL FOR TARAPUR.

2. VAJPAYEE ALSO SAID THAT INDIA WOULD CONTINUE TO
PLAY A MODERATING ROLE IN BRINGING ABOUT A
"RAPPROCHEMENT" BETWEEN THE FIVE WESTERN POWERS AND SWAPO.
IN THE LIGHT OF SWAPO'S "CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE"
AND "VERY IMPORTANT CONCESSIONS," VAJPAYEE THOUGHT IT WAS

UPTO THE WESTERN KKFIVE TO PROVIDE SWAPO WITH THE
"CKLARIFICATIONS IT NOW SOUGHT. HE THOUGHT THAT THE STATUS OF
WALVIS BAY COULD BE TAKEN UP AFTER ELECTIKION PROCESS
HAD BEGUN IN NAMIBIA.

3. ASKED ABOUT THE COUP IN AFGHANISTAN, VAJPAYEE CALLED
IT AN AFGHAN "INTERNAL AFFAIR." WHILE AFGHANISTAN VITALLY
CONCERNS INDIA, VAJPAYEE REPORTEDLY SAID HE
REFUSED TO MAKE ANY COMMENT ON
THE BASIS OF PRESS REPORTS ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN A
COUNTRY WITH WHICH INDIA HAD CLOSE AND FRIENDLY
RELATIONS.
GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

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